



Faculty Assembly Meeting Draft Agenda
Wednesday, October 15, 2025 (12:00 – 1:15 PM)

Zoom Meeting URL: <https://unm.zoom.us/j/99599628590> (Passcode: Oct25)

In-person Meeting in H101

1. Call to Order

12:03 pm: Andisheh Dadashi

2. Acceptance of Agenda

Domenique Rodriguez motions, Precious Andrew seconds

3. Approval of Minutes

Domenique motions, Precious Andrew seconds

4. Chancellor's Report - Sam Dosumu 12:04 pm:

Reported that overall enrollment remains stable compared to last year, with notable growth in dual credit courses that, while boosting headcount, contribute less to tuition revenue due to state funding formulas. Budget projections had anticipated a 5% increase, but only about half that was realized. Recruitment efforts are ongoing, and staff were encouraged to share ideas for growth and new initiatives.

The Chancellor is preparing for the Spring 2026 legislative session, which will focus on financial and funding formula discussions; updates will follow upcoming meetings with the Higher Education Department and legislative committees. Student engagement remains strong, as shown by a recent "Pizza with the Chancellor" event, where students praised the college's positive reputation and expressed interest in local bachelor's degree opportunities.

Looking ahead, the institution aims to increase enrollment from local high school graduates—targeting 50% of the approximately 1,000 in the service area—and will continue soliciting ideas and feedback through an anonymous survey which was created and shared by Andisheh Dadashi. She has created a QR code shared at the end of the meeting and will send it out via email again.

Dr. Dosumu concluded by thanking staff and faculty for their dedication and emphasizing optimism amid ongoing enrollment challenges.

5. Dean of Instruction's Report - Laura Musselwhite 12:13 pm



Dr. Musselwhite gave several updates. Everyone who's been taking part in the faculty search workshops, whether in person or online, was thanked for their time and effort. These sessions are required for anyone involved in leading or serving on a search committee. The college is planning three new faculty searches for fall positions — one in psychology, one in criminal justice, and one more to be determined after Clifton Murray's retirement. Round of applause in recognition. Cheryl Bryan's upcoming retirement was also recognized with a round of applause. The searches will open in November and stay active over the winter break so candidates can apply and so that committees can start reviewing applications early in the spring and make offers by late spring.

On the advising side, things are going smoothly since the team moved into Academic Affairs and the Pasos Resource Center. Beatrice is doing a great job leading the transition. A series of "touch points" — emails, texts, and messages — have gone out to help students get ready for the second eight-week term and the spring semester. The six faculty mentors working with success teams were thanked for their support, which is expected to make a real difference in student retention.

Finally, there was a quick reminder about faculty laptops. If you haven't yet turned in your laptop for upgrades or if it's gone missing somewhere, you might be hearing from Laura or IT soon. The updated list will be sent out shortly to make sure everyone's equipment is current.

6. Treasurer's Report – Piotr Filipczak 12:16 pm

A brief financial update was shared: Faculty funds currently have \$460.72, and the snack money envelope contains about \$58.85. The snack funds could cover roughly six burritos, and there was a lighthearted discussion about possibly using major funds for small upgrades on treats.

7. Committee Plans (2 min per)

- Faculty Professional Development Committee—Precious Andrew 12:17 pm

It was reported that funds are being used up quickly, with approximately \$3,700 remaining for the year. Faculty was encouraged to submit any professional development requests as soon as possible.

- Faculty Online Teaching & Review Committee—Kat Gullahorn 12:18 pm



The committee will be hosting the All-Campus Academy this Friday.

Announcements were sent out earlier in the week. We are hosting visitors from Central Campus in the Compliance Division who will be presenting on the scope of work that will begin next spring. The session will serve as an informational presentation for both faculty and staff, providing opportunities for hands-on practice and outlining the pathway toward initial minimum compliance for all online classes. Additional training sessions and presentations are planned for the near future. The committee also met last month and selected four courses from four different divisions for initial course reviews, which will begin next week. Further information will be shared following the All-Campus Academy event.

- Curriculum Committee-Jonathan Sims 12:19 pm

We have looked at some additions of courses and some changes that will be coming up soon in gaming.

Laura Musslewhite 12:20 pm

We had one other meeting since the last faculty assembly where Andisheh and Hameem introduced their new idea for a certificate related to AI computer science. It was a great presentation and that went through. We will have one more meeting for the term.

- Adjunct Faculty Committee—Liz Axelrod 12:21 pm

The committee has met a couple of times and is planning to meet twice more this semester. Liz raised a question about whether meetings should be held monthly or just three times per semester. They've already outlined topics for future meetings, including integrating technology to enhance student learning without increasing adjunct workload, AI in the classroom, and adjunct workload issues. A concern was raised about the adjunct list, which the chair has struggled to obtain and update. The chair requested access to the list to directly reach out to adjuncts and encourage more involvement in the meetings. Laura offered to send the list and Liz stated that she can just manually update and distribute the information.



8. Faculty Senate Report (5 min)—Steven Romero 12:23 pm

Steven shared that President Stokes provided an update on several key developments. Enrollment has increased for the fourth consecutive year, and the university celebrated its largest graduating class in history. The critical care tower is now admitting patients, with plans to hire for many medical positions. Stokes also highlighted the partnership with Arizona State University on healthcare initiatives, which may be of interest to those in STEM or nursing fields. Regarding leadership, the president position is still being worked on, with plans to hire the president before the provost, potentially leading to some initial confusion. There will be an interim provost until the president is in place. Chris Elder, former Faculty Senate President, discussed a working group related to freedom of speech and departmental guidelines on certain issues, including ICE policies. This group's work may be of interest, and the committee offered to forward further information. Lastly, concerns about campus safety were raised, especially after a shooting earlier in the semester. There are differing opinions on how the university is moving forward with safety plans, particularly within the equity division, but these efforts will continue. Those concerned with campus safety or related issues were encouraged to reach out for further details.

Justin Bendall 12:25 pm

The BCCC has been engaged in ongoing discussions, particularly around the Mutual Academic Defense Compact (MADSE), which was passed by the Faculty Senate last year. Despite not receiving a response from the administration regarding this resolution, the committee plans to push forward and generate more concrete discussions on the topic. A meeting has been scheduled with CNM, which also passed a MADSE resolution, to explore regional coordination. This meeting is set for a couple of weeks from now. Additionally, the rise of a loyalty compact proposed by Trump, which could create a counterweight to the MADSE, has become a critical issue. The compact, which seeks to prioritize universities that align with its stance, is seen as being anti-faculty and anti-student, making it a key issue to address. Andisheh will be mentioning the Town Hall in more detail. The BCCC is also working with FAA presidents to coordinate the agenda for a town hall event in early November, aiming for a strong, robust agenda for that Town Hall event. These are the major developments from the BCCC's side.



Andisheh Dadashi 12:28 pm

Yes, I am going to send out that email regarding the Cross Campus Town Hall or I should put Branch Campuses somewhere in there, so everyone knows it is for networking for all the faculty at all the branch campuses. I am going to send out the email again today after the meeting, so please choose a time if you are interested in attending the Cross Campus Town Hall.

9. Update on Union Contract Negotiations—Scott Kamen 12:29 pm

There hasn't been much new progress since the last update, but the union has provided its last, best, and final offer for the contract, and they're still waiting for the administration to present theirs. If the offers are not aligned, which is expected, the process will move into impasse, where a third-party mediator will attempt to facilitate an agreement. Any unresolved issues will then go before an arbitrator, making the stakes high for the arbitration process. This procedure is expected to be long and challenging. The union will continue to keep members updated, and encourages everyone to join the general membership meeting this Thursday at 5:00 PM in person at the PIES building (Room 1100) at Main Campus, with a Zoom option available, the QR code in that flyer will let you RSVP, and will provide the Zoom information for the meeting. The meeting will be followed by a happy hour at Flock of Moon Brewery. Members are encouraged to attend to learn more and voice their concerns.

Annica Cox 12:31 pm

A couple of important updates: for those planning to attend the general membership meeting, RSVPing is crucial as food will be provided. Additionally, there will be free drinks at the happy hour following the meeting, offering a nice incentive. Karen Walter has also offered to carpool with anyone from Valencia County who needs a ride to Albuquerque, so those interested should contact her. Furthermore, the union is in the process of forming a working group focused on academic freedom and free speech within the organizing committee, as these issues continue to pose significant threats both nationally and on campus. Those interested in joining this effort to advocate for protections of academic freedom are encouraged to reach out to Justin or Annica.



10. T&P Review Process questions Julia So 12:32 pm

Julia So thanked the previous T&P committee for revising and updating the T&P model, noting that the updates have clarified aspects of the review process for her. She shared that, in her 13 years at Valencia, she has been concerned that the T&P review process does not require voting members to observe a candidate's classroom teaching and sought clarification on this point.

It was confirmed by colleagues, including Ana June and Laura Musselwhite, that classroom observation by voting members is not formally required, though it is considered wise practice. Julia asked if candidates could refuse such observation; responses from Scott Kamen, Justin Bendell, and others indicated that while refusal is technically allowed, it might not be advisable in most cases. Julia also questioned how voting members could fairly evaluate teaching if they had not observed it themselves, and Andisheh and Ben Flicker emphasized the difference between internal voting members and external reviewers, noting that internal reviewers often rely on supervisors' reports, which may be insufficient. Clifton Murray noted that peer reviews exist, but Andisheh stressed the value of direct classroom observation for diverse perspectives. Laura and Piotr highlighted practical considerations, including committee size and cross-departmental observation, which could enhance feedback. Cheryl Bryan discussed Valencia's ongoing efforts through the Teaching Enhancement Committee to define teaching excellence, linking it to award criteria and upcoming Faculty Academy events, encouraging broader faculty engagement. The group agreed that while observation by voting members is not required, it is beneficial, and further conversations on upholding teaching excellence and improving faculty development were recommended.

11. New Faculty Checklist Webpage –Andisheh Dadashi 12:28 pm

Andisheh proposed creating a centralized webpage for new faculty members to consolidate essential information, noting that while convocation and workshops provide initial guidance, critical details are often scattered or easily forgotten. The page would include items such as open enrollment, Canvas instructions, temporary course requests, APR deadlines, and other first-year essentials, with the goal of providing a comprehensive checklist for new faculty. She plans to compile contributions from colleagues and collaborate with Dr. Musselwhite, Rita, and others to develop the site,



linking it to the existing faculty homepage. Participants discussed ideas for organizing the content, including prioritization and potential AI integration to answer faculty questions. It was also noted that professional development funds can be used to subscribe to AI tools, which could support faculty in navigating resources more efficiently. Additional discussion touched on AI applications and the development of AI data centers in New Mexico.

12. Faculty and Staff “Suggestions/Concerns/Ideas” Survey—Andisheh Dadashi

Andisheh introduced a QR code platform, originally suggested during her time on the College Council, to allow faculty and staff to anonymously submit concerns, suggestions, or ideas. She noted that some comments had already been submitted and emphasized that submissions are completely anonymous. The QR code link was also shared via faculty assembly and FEC emails for accessibility. She encouraged participants to use the platform actively, acknowledging potential minor technical issues with smartphone scanning, and indicated that follow-up emails would be sent to ensure everyone had access.

13. New Business / Announcements

Ben Flicker 1:03

Community Garden is meeting this Friday at 10:00 am at the Greenhouse garden area there all community are welcome. Seeking anyone who is interested in being involved in the Community Garden.

Andisheh

The Cross Campus Town Hall is happening on November 7. I will share the email and tomorrow I will decide on the time based on everyone's preference.

Michael Gonzalez

I did send out the newsletter this morning. The first try didn't seem to attach it properly. I did send it out a second time. People are telling me that they didn't receive it the second time. I will send it out again.

Julia So mentioned that the archives for Faculty Assembly folder is missing with the new updates. Discussion about recovering the archives.

Andisheh will follow through finding the folder.



14. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 1:07 pm

Attendance

Andisheh Dadashi
Piotr Filipczak
Sam Dosumu
Laura Musselwhite
Clifton Murray
Justin Bendell
Steven Romero
Hamim Md Adal
Andy Taylor
Barbara Lovato
Cindi Goodman

Kat Gullahorn
Scott Kamen
Patricia Gillikin
Precious Andrew
Liz Axelrod
Karen Walter
Jonathan Sims
Julia So
Anicca Cox
Joshua Frank Cardenas

Ana June
Dominique Rodriquez
Cheryl Bryan
Ben Flicker
Michael Gonzales
Mindy Schwarz
Frances Duran
Michael Carriere
Elisa DiMenna
Leslie Jernegan